

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 6 are all the claims pending in the application, prior to the present amendment.

Claims 1-6 have been objected to as being informal.

The Examiner states that the specification discloses a silicon group-containing acrylic polymer in terms of the monomers from which it is derived. The Examiner states that in the case where component (A) corresponds to a "monomer having a function group capable of undergoing introduction of a hydrolyzable silyl group," the resulting polymer is one containing that functional group, but does not contain any silyl group. The Examiner states that for the purpose of evaluating the claims against the prior art, the Examiner has assumed that component (A) can only be a monomer containing a silyl group.

In response, applicants have amended claim 1 as set forth above to make it clear that when component (A) is a monomer having a functional group capable of undergoing introduction of a hydrolyzable silyl group, the copolymer is reacted with a compound having a hydrolyzable silyl group to introduce the hydrolyzable silyl group into the polymer. This amendment is based on the disclosure in the present specification at page 8, lines 12-21.

In view of the above, applicants request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1-3 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0045683 to Kiyohara et al.

Claims 4 and 6 have not been rejected over prior art. The Examiner indicates at the bottom of page 4 of the Office Action that claims 4-6 would be allowable, if rewritten in

independent form including all of the recitations of the main claim and any intervening claims, and if the claim objection is overcome.

Accordingly, applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the recitations of claim 4 to direct it to a room temperature curable resin composition. Applicants have amended dependent claim 2 to direct it to a room temperature curable resin composition. Applicants have canceled claims 3-6, and have added new dependent claim 7 directed to the embodiment in which component (A) is a monomer having a functional group capable of undergoing introduction of a hydrolyzable group.

In view of the above, applicants request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Examiner's detailed statement of the rejection contains a number of unclear points. Accordingly, undersigned counsel called the Examiner and spoke to him on September 19, 2007. The Examiner clarified these points during the telephone conference.

In particular, at page 3 of the Office Action, in the first and second paragraphs, the Examiner refers to "Reference Example 3." It appeared to undersigned counsel that the Examiner intended to refer to "Reference Example 2." During the telephone conference, the Examiner confirmed that he intended to refer to "Reference Example 2."

In addition, in the second paragraph on page 3, the Examiner, in line 2, refers to a ".0236" weight percent. This number is wrong. The Examiner indicated that the correct number is "2.7" weight percent.

As discussed above, the Examiner has indicated at the bottom of page 4 of the Office Action that claims 4-6 contain allowable subject matter. On the other hand, the Examiner has included claim 5 in the rejection based on Kiyohara et al. Thus, the Examiner's indication at the

bottom of page 4 that claim 5 would be allowable is inconsistent with his rejection of claim 5. During the above noted telephone conference with the Examiner, he clarified that claim 5 should not have been included in the subject matter which he considers to be allowable.

With respect to the various prior art cited at page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to U.S. Patent 6,914,110, and states that it discloses components (A) to (D) at column 45. U.S. Patent 6,914,110, however, does not contain a column 45. During the above noted telephone conference, the Examiner stated that he had intended to refer to U.S. Patent 6,797,444, which is not cited anywhere else in the present application. Applicants request the Examiner to make this patent of record by listing it on a Form PTO-892.

The Examiner's discussion of the prior art at pages 5 and 6 relates to the various components (A) to (D), but does not specifically mention the hydrolyzable silyl group-containing oxyalkylene polymer recited in claim 4. During the above noted telephone conference, the Examiner confirmed that he believed that claim 4 was allowable because the prior art that is of record does not disclose a room-temperature curable resin composition comprised of a hydrolyzable silyl group-containing oxyalkylene polymer in combination with the reactive modifier of the present claims. The Examiner indicated that he was aware that hydrolyzable silyl group-containing oxyalkylene polymers are disclosed in various prior art references that are of record.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

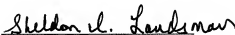
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Date: November 20, 2007